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(54) **NEGATIVE OPTICAL IMAGE FORMING
COMPOUND**

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To improve a stripping characteristic in a completely aqueous alkali-stopping solution favorable in the aspect of circumferences by making a film forming binder polymer containing a polymer having a multi-mode molecular distribution.

SOLUTION: A film forming binder polymer contains a

single polymer having a multi-mode molecular distribution. The multi-mode binder polymer is composed of a mixture of an acid functional monomer and 3 non-acid functional monomer. The acid functional monomer is for example methylacrylate and is copolymerized with the non-acid functional monomer such as vinylacrylate to provide a required acid value. The multi-mode binder polymer is produced by continuously or successively changing the ratio between a starter and the monomer, and the acid value of monomer mixture.

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